

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 29 May 2001
Name of applicant/court: Paul Renk
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: Heimliche Liebe Eros Zwischen Knabbe Und Mann
Other Known Titles: A book titled Heimliche Liebe; Heimliche Liebe;
Secret Love: Erotic Love Between Boys and Men
Director: Not Applicable
Producer: Not Applicable
Publisher: Jahn & Ernst Verlag
Author: Wolf Vogel
Format: Book
Country of Origin: Germany
Language: German

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:
Trailers: Running time:
Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The publication is a soft cover book comprising 167 pages, written entirely in German. The title translated is "SECRET LOVERS": *Erotic Love Between Boys and Men*. The only translation available is a selective one by the Translation Service of the Department of Internal Affairs comprising just over three pages and is a descriptive summary of the Foreword and each chapter. As the members of the Board are not fluent in German, it confined its decision to the translator's summary. The book comprises some 15 chapters which predominantly relate to sexual encounters by men who, when they were boys, had sexual relationships with older men. These sexual encounters are presented in a positive way as being good experiences and that the only real harm which comes of them is if the children have to hide these experiences from adults or their parents or are unable to make a choice of having the relationship. This lends itself to a seal of adult approval and authority.

There was only one tenable meaning which the Board took from the translation and that is that the book promoted and encouraged or tended to promote and encourage, sexual activity and sexual relationships between young males with older men. As a result of the presentation of these experiences and relationships, the book promotes and supports and tends to promote and support, the exploitation of children and young persons for sexual purposes pursuant to section 3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publication Classification Act 1993.

The classification which the Board attributed to the Book represents the minimum interference with freedom of expression, which is affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, that is consistent with preventing likely injury to the public good.

OFLC Ref: 100806